

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HEREWITH FULL TEXT EVANS-NOVAK COLUMN, THURSDAY, OCT. 10, WASHPOST, HEADLINED: "ANTI-AMERICANISM IN GREECE."
2. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAS QUIETLY WITHDRAWN SOME OF ITS TOP MILITARY OFFICERS FROM NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO) HEADQUARTERS IN BRUSSELS, ONE MORE INDICATION OF HOW SERIOUSLY THE KARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT VIEWS ANTI-AMERICAN SENTIMENT NOW SWEEPING GREECE.
3. FACING THE FIRST PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION ON NOV. 17 SINCE THE MILITARY COUP DIETAT OF 1967, THE NEW CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT OF PRIME MINISTER CONSTANTINE KARAMANLIS IS TORN BETWEEN CONFLICTING POLITICAL REALITIES.
4. THE MEREST FRAGMENT OF PUBLIC DISPLAY OF PRO-AMERICAN SENTIMENT COULD BOOMERANG, GIVING THE GREEK LEFT A DANGEROUS OPENING THAT ANDREAS PAPANDREOU WOULD BE QUICK TO EXPLOIT.

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KARAMANLIS DEALT WITH THIS HARD POLITICAL FACT BY PULLING

GREECE OUT OF THE MILITARY ORGANIZATION OF NATO. NOW HE HAS FOLLOWED UP BY WITHDRAWING SOME OF THE 400-ODD GREEK OFFICERS FROM THEIR REGULAR MILITARY BILLETS IN BRUSSELS, NAPLES AND OTHER NATO COMMANDS.

B. BUT THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEMANDS FOR ANTI-U.S. ACTIONS

RAISE THE GRAVEST FUTURE PROBLEMS FOR GREECE. FRIENDSHIP WITH THE WEST, AND PARTICULARLY THE U.S., IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR GREECE IN THE LONG RUN, AS A GLANCE AT THE MAP PROVES. GREECE IS BORDERED BY THREE COMMUNIST STATES TO THE NORTH AND BY MUSCLE-FLEXING TURKEY ON THE EAST.

6. KARAMANALIS AND HIS FOREIGN MINISTER, THE ASTUTE GEORGE MAVROS, ALONG WITH MOST OTHER LEADING GREEK POLITICIANS OF THE CENTER AND RIGHT, FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT FACT. BUT DESPITE STRONG PRESSURE FROM THE U.S., THEY ARE UNABLE TO IMPEDE THE MOVE TOWARD WHAT LOOKS LIKE A FORM OF DANGEROUS NEUTRALITY FOR FEAR THAT THE ANTI-AMERICAN CURRENTS NOW SWEEPING GREECE WOULD PULL THEM UNDER. ACCORDINGLY, RATIONAL DIPLOMACY DICTATED BY LONG-TERM GREEK SECURITY NEEDS HAS BEEN INUNDATED BY SHORT-TERM DOMESTIC POLITICS. THE FOUNDATION FOR THIS WAS BUILT BY WASHINGTON'S LONG LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE HATED MILITARY DICTATORSHIP.

7. A CASE IN POINT WAS THE ABSOLUTELY FUTILE EFFORT BY SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER LAST WEEK TO ENLIST SUB ROSA GREEK SUPPORT AGAINST THE THEN-PENDING CONGRESSIONAL BAN ON U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY.

8. CONFERRING AT HIS OWN REQUEST AT THE PLAZA HOTEL IN MANHATTAN LAST WEEK WITH MAVROS, KISSINGER EXPLAINED THAT THE EFFECT OF A CONGRESSIONALLY-IMPOSED TURKISH AID BAN WAS PREDICTABLE: IT WOULD MAKE THE TURKS DIG IN THEIR HEELS AGAINST U.S. MEDIATION EFFORTS TO REMOVE TURKISH TROOPS FROM CYPRUS AND RETURN PART OF TURKEY'S CYPRUS CONQUEST TO GREEK CYPRIOTS. THUS, IT WAS IN THE SELF-INTEREST OF ATHENS TO KEEP THE U.S. ON GOOD TERMS WITH TURKEY.

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9. MAVROS WAS STUNNED. "THAT," HE TOLD KISSINGER, "IS NOT SOMETHING FOR A GREEK TO DO."

10. INDEED, FAR FROM DISCOURAGING GREEK SYMPATHIZERS IN THE U.S. CONGRESS FROM VOTING AGAINST THE BAN ON AID TO TURKEY, TOP GREEK DIPLOMATS IN THE U.S. ENCOURAGED IT. ONE ACTIVE PROMOTER OF THE AID BAN WAS THE CONSUL-GENERAL

IN THE INFLUENTIAL GREEK CONSULATE IN SAN FRANCISCO, WHO
QUIETLY SPREAD THE WORD TO FRIENDLY CONGRESSMEN: STOP
AMERICAN AID NO MATTER WHAT THE IMPACT ON CYPRUS.

11. IN SHORT, THE POLITICAL IMPERATIVES IN ATHENS ON THE
EVE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION FAR OUTWEIGH THE LONG-
RANGE NECESSITY OF GRADUALLY RESTORING THE ATHENS-

WASHINGTON LINK. NO GREEK LEADER CAUGHT SECRETLY LOBBYING
CONGRESS TO VOTE AGAINST THE TURKISH AID-BAN COULD BE
ELECTED SEWER INSPECTOR IN A PROVINCIAL GREEK VILLAGE.

12. THE UNANNOUNCED DECISION TO WITHDRAW TOP GREEK
MILITARY MEN FROM NATO HEADQUARTERS IS SIMPLY THE NEWEST
SIGNAL. HAVING HEARD AMERICAN PLEDGES FOR OVER TWO MONTHS
THAT TURKEY WOULD BE GLAD TO GIVE UP SOME OF IT CYPRUS
CONQUEST ONCE TALKS STARTED (PLEDGES WHOLLY UNREDEEMED),
THE GREEK GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO ADVERTISE ITSELF AS ANTI-
AMERICAN.

13. THERE IS NO HOPE THAT THIS WILL CHANGE BETWEEN NOW
AND THE MID-NOVEMBER ELECTION, AND LITTLE EXPECTATION THAT
IT COULD CHANGE SOON THEREAFTER. LIKEWISE, THE HOSTILITY
FOR TURKEY SO VIVIDLY EXPRESSED IN CONGRESS OVER THE AID-
BAN THREATENS POLITICAL RETALIATION AGAINST WASHINGTON
THERE, TOO.

14. WITH AN OUTSTANDING IOU DEBT TO RUSSIA FOR ITS
ACQUIESCE IN THE INVASION OF CYPRUS LAST JULY, TURKEY
MAY FIND IT HARDER THAN BEFORE TO DENY ANY SOVIET REQUEST
FOR OVERFLIGHT PRIVILEGES IN A FUTURE MIDDLE EASTERN WAR,
PARTICULARLY WITH THE U.S. CONGRESS SO VIRULENTLY ANTI-
TURKEY.

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15. AS THESE CYPRUS CHICKENS COME HOME TO ROOST, THE ONCE-
MIGHTY U.S. IS AN IMPOTENT BYSTANDER.(END TEXT) INGERSOLL

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